

*Logan*  
*Correctional Center*

Public Comments  
as of 10/25/2011

10-19-11  
117-9th St,  
Lincoln, IL  
62656

To Whom it may concern  
@ COF&A,

My husband & I have lived in Lincoln since 1979. Our town cannot lose any more jobs. Please do not close Logan Correctional. This is a hard time to find employment, as you know, so it makes no sense to close Logan.

Surely there are other cost-savings that could be implemented rather than closing Logan Correctional.

Thank you for your consideration of my and my husband's plea.

Sincerely,  
Wendy Bohner

**UPTOWN PEOPLE'S LAW CENTER**  
4413 NORTH SHERIDAN • CHICAGO, IL 60640  
773.769.1411 • FAX: 773.769.2224

October 22, 2011

**By Fax**  
(217) 782-3513

The Honorable Jeffrey Schoenberg and The Honorable Patricia Bellock  
Co-Chairs  
Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
703 Stratton Office Building  
Springfield, IL 62706

*Re: Proposed Closure of Logan Correctional Center*

Dear Senator Schoenberg and Representative Bellock:

We are writing to object to announced plan by the Illinois Department of Corrections to close Logan Correctional Facility.

The Uptown People's Law Center represents hundreds of prisoners throughout the State of Illinois. Along with numerous individual cases, we are class counsel in three class action cases which are specifically relevant to the closure of Logan. In *Westefer v. Snyder*, 00-162, pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District, we represent a class of prisoners who were sent to Tamms without due process. In *Rasbo v. Walker*, 07-1298, pending in the United States District Court for the Central District, we represent a class of prisoners who allege that the mental health treatment that has been provided in Illinois' prisons statewide violates the United States Constitution. Finally, in *Lippert v. Godinez*, 10-4603, pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District, we represent a classes of prisoners who allege that the physical health care they are provided in prisons throughout Illinois violates the United States Constitution. The planned closure of Logan will make the problems faced by the members of the plaintiff class in each of these three cases much worse.

We have serious concerns regarding the Department's ability to provide prisoners conditions of confinement which comply with the minimum requirements of the Eighth Amendment if prisoners are transferred from Logan to other, already overcrowded, prisons in Illinois. The fact that many of the prisons to which the Department proposes transferring prisoners are higher security prisons than Logan is particularly troubling.

The Department submission dated September 23, 2011, states that the prisoner currently housed at Logan will be dispersed and housed at prisons across the State. The Department has indicated that some of those prisoners will be placed at Tamms, some will be housed in health care units, while the remainder will be housed in gymnasiums and other non-residential space which will be filled with bunk beds to accommodate them.

The disruptions of these moves alone is enough to reject the proposal to close Logan. Prisoners will have to be transferred throughout the State. Under the Department's plan, closing Logan will cause a ripple effect as prisoners from Logan are moved to other prisons, those prisoners are relocated to health care units and eventually prisoners currently

## Uptown People's Law Center

Page 2

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
Re: *Planned Logan Closure*  
October 22, 2011

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housed in regular cells at minimum security prisons are moved to new reconfigured gymnasiums. This massive movement will require reclassification of thousands of prisoners, careful review of thousands of files to ensure that enemies are not housed together, massive disruptions of food supplies as already over stressed kitchens try to feed hundreds of additional prisoners, disruptions of family visits, inevitable lost and damaged personal property, and all of the other logistical nightmares inherent in a move this size in complexity.

While these general concerns are damning enough, the impact on health care is unimaginable. The physical space available to provide both medical and mental health care is already grossly inadequate, outdated, understaffed, and overtaxed. Using those few available beds to house healthy prisoners will only create chaos in an already inadequate system.

To highlight just one example, continuity of care will inevitably suffer. The Department already has a severe problem ensuring that medical and mental health records accompany prisoners, and are actually reviewed by medical personally at the receiving facility in a timely manner. The massive, cascading moves envisioned in the Department's closure plan, will make an already bad situation deadly.

Worse, both mental and physical health problems will multiply. You simply cannot stuff hundreds of men into a gymnasium with little or no sanitation without causing serious problems. This was dramatically demonstrated on a world stage by the pictures and stories from the New Orleans Superdome following Katrina. The legal implications were made crystal clear last Summer by the Supreme Court's opinion in *Brown v. Plata*, in which the Court affirmed an order that California had to release prisoner because the overcrowding made delivery of medical and mental health care impossible.

All of this causes us to question whether there will actually be any cost savings at all. Prisoners will have to be transported all over the State. This will require huge amounts of overtime. The file of each prisoner who is transferred must be reviewed by clerical staff from the transfer coordinator's office and at the receiving institution. These people will have to be paid overtime. Then on an ongoing basis, extra security staff will be needed at many prisons because those prisons will now be used to house prisoners in range of security classifications. For example, the Department's plan suggests that Pinkneyville, a Level 2 security facility, will now also be used to house minimum security inmates. This will require separate yards, separate meals, separate lines to whatever health care may still exist, separate visiting times, and a plethora of other problems caused when men of different security levels are housed in the same physical facility.

However, we are particularly concerned about the Department's plan to transfer some of the prisoners currently housed at Logan to Tamms CMAX.

Specifically, we direct your attention to the Department's submission to the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (submitted in compliance with 30 I.C.S 608), entitled "Recommendation for the Closure of Logan Correctional Center," and dated

AARON SCHOCK  
18TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

DEPUTY REPUBLICAN WHIP

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1602**

October 18, 2011

- 509 CANNON HOB  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-6201
- 100 N.E. MONROE, ROOM 100  
PEORIA, IL 61602  
(309) 671-7027
- 209 WEST STATE STREET  
JACKSONVILLE, IL 62650  
(217) 245-1431
- 235 SOUTH 6TH STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701  
(217) 670-1653

WWW.SCHOCK.HOUSE.GOV

**Statement for the record from Congressman Aaron Schock**  
**Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability Public Hearing in Lincoln, Illinois**  
**On the closure of the Logan Correctional Center**

Logan County, Illinois is located in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Illinois, which I represent. It is home to the Logan Correctional Center, a facility that employs 357 people from the Lincoln and Logan County area. Governor Quinn has publicly state his intentions to close this facility.

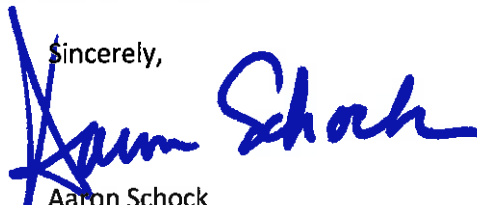
There are currently about 2,000 inmates in general population at Logan Correctional Center. I am concerned about the State's plan, or lack thereof, in regard to moving the population to another suitable prison facility. Further, I question the estimated savings projection if this key facility were to close. The average cost per inmate at Logan Correctional Center is \$17,000 while the State's average per inmate cost is \$22,000. Perhaps most importantly, according to the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois, closing the Logan Correctional Center will cost \$73 million in economic activity. Additionally, it is worth noting that in 2002, the State closed the Lincoln Developmental Center in the same community; a 103 acre property that remains in State of Illinois ownership, at taxpayer expense, to this day. I cannot envision that a shuttered prison facility would result in anything different.

I encourage Governor Quinn to find other ways to handle budgetary shortfalls in the State of Illinois than disproportionately cutting essential services at such enormous expense to downstate Illinois communities who will have little chance to recover.

As of August, Logan County's unemployment rate was 8.3%. In addition to the 357 state employees on site, at minimum, an additional 104 jobs would be affected. Hemorrhaging 461 jobs could bring serious acceleration to the unraveling of the area's rural economy.

I ask that a full and fair review is conducted concerning the Governor's proposal for Logan Correctional Center. It is my expectation that this review will prove the Center's value and why it is essential to Logan County, the surrounding region, and the State of Illinois.

Sincerely,



Aaron Schock  
Member of Congress

**Uptown People's Law Center**

Page 3

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
Re: *Planned Logan Closure*  
October 22, 2011

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September 23, 2011 (a copy is enclosed for your convenience). On page 5, point 5 of that Recommendation, the Department states that between 130 and 180 prisoners from Logan will be housed at the Tamms Closed Maximum Security prison.

Were this a temporary move of prisoners to Tamms to relieve an emergency situation elsewhere, we might have no objection. However, as written, the Department is calling for a permanent closure of Logan, and what appears to be the long-term use of empty cells at Tamms to house prisoners who will be sent to Tamms for no reason other than to relieve overcrowding in other prisons. We thus feel obligated as counsel for the plaintiff class in *Wastofer* to object to this planned transfer of prisoners to Tamms.

In *Wastofer*, Judge Murphy held that prisoners have a constitutionally protected liberty interest in not being transferred to Tamms. A wholesale transfer of prisoners from the medium security prison at Logan to the supermax prison at Tamms, not because of anything they have done, but merely because Tamms has available bed space, would violate the liberty interests of those prisoners, and potentially subject Department Officials to a finding of contempt.

By focusing on the planned transfer of prisoners to Tamms, we in no way mean to signal that we otherwise approve of the other aspects of the Department's plan for the closure of Logan. We do not. For example, we believe that the proposed transfers to other prisons where prisoners will be housed in gyms will exacerbate existing physical and mental illnesses among prisoners, and will cause deterioration of many prisoners who do not currently suffer from a diagnosed mental illness, and will present what may be insurmountable barriers to ensuring continuity of care.

We are particularly concerned that moving prisoners into this type of "dormitory" housing in spaces designed to be used as gyms will undermine the process currently underway in *Rasbo v. Walker*, to review (with a view towards improving) the treatment of mentally ill prisoners throughout the Illinois prison system. The recent Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Plata*, demonstrates the dire consequences on the mental health of prisoners when a state attempts to house too many prisoners in inadequate facilities.

We look forward to your client's response.

Sincerely,



Alan Mills

October 19,2011

2453 475<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Emden, Illinois 62635

COFGA  
Logan CC Facility Closure  
703 Stratton Building  
Springfield, Il 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

This letter is to tell you that we trust you are pray fully considering keeping our Logan Correctional Facility open.

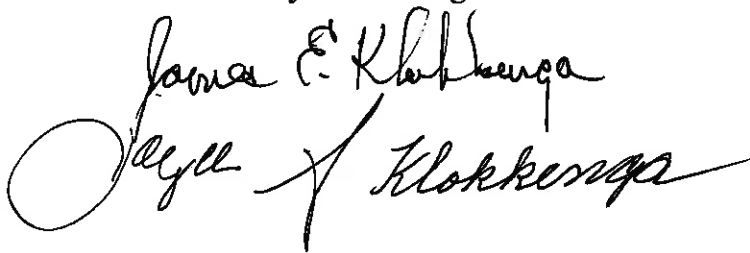
My husband and I farm 1500 acres of land in northern Logan County, but we are concerned about all the people who will be out of work and very concerned about what you will do with the prisoners.

You now have our vote in writing. Please keep this facility open.

We know have smart politicians in Springfield. We have voted you in and you represent our vote.

Thank you for serving us.

James and Joyce Klokkenga

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is 'James E. Klokkenga' and the bottom signature is 'Joyce Klokkenga'. Both signatures are written in a cursive style.

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
703 Stratton Office Building  
Springfield Il 62703



October 23, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

1555 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656  
217.732.8739  
[LincolnLogan.com](http://LincolnLogan.com)

Thank you for the opportunity to submit both written and oral testimony regarding the closure of Logan Corrections Center. The Economic Development Partnership (Partnership) strongly opposes the closure of Logan Corrections Center. As an agency whose mission is to create and retain jobs, and, increase the quality of life in Lincoln and Logan County, the closure of Logan Corrections Center (LCC) would be disastrous for all of the communities of Logan County.

The purpose and goal of the state government is to deliver services in an efficient and effective manner. After an extensive review of the facts, the Partnership would argue that the closure of the LCC is neither an act of efficiency or effectiveness. We would make this argument based upon 2 facts:

1. The average cost per inmate<sup>1</sup> at LCC compared to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)<sup>2</sup> LCC costs \$5,000 less per inmate. Overall, this means that LCC saves the IDOC approximately 10 million dollars annually.
2. For the last 10 years, the IDOC has made 16 million taxpayer dollars worth of improvements and can only find an additional 6 million of facility improvement to be done<sup>3</sup>. Most recently, the IDOC has been conducting an \$800,000 roofing project.

In order to see the impact this closure may have on a community, one needs to look at the example of the state closure of the Lincoln Developmental Center (LDC). A decade after the closure of the LDC, the businesses in Lincoln have just begun to recover and return to town. The state of Illinois conducted its own economic impact study to estimate what may happen to the region around the facility if LCC closure takes place. This study states that there will be a 73 million dollar impact to the Logan County economy and a loss of 457 plus jobs. An impact of this scale would mean the loss of business entities and countywide reduction of employment. The school enrollment will drop drastically; homes will sit vacant, as the local housing market would be flooded with new sales; and, business will slow as families move away in search of work opportunities.

While we understand the difficulties the state is facing due to tough economic times, the Partnership would propose that the State make drastic decisions like facility closures based on inefficiencies and ineffectiveness. Clearly, the Logan Corrections Center in comparison to the rest of the IDOC system is an efficient and effective facility. The Partnership proposes the State make decisions with a minimal economic impact to the fragile economy of Logan County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Maniscalco".

Michael Maniscalco, MPA

Executive Director

Lincoln Logan Economic Development Partnership

<sup>1</sup> [www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/facilities/information.asp?instchoice=log](http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/facilities/information.asp?instchoice=log)

<sup>2</sup> [www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/reports/financial\\_impact\\_statements/2010\\_Financial%20Impact%20Statement.pdf](http://www.idoc.state.il.us/subsections/reports/financial_impact_statements/2010_Financial%20Impact%20Statement.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [www.ilga.gov/commission/cgfa2006/upload/09232011LoganRecommendation.pdf](http://www.ilga.gov/commission/cgfa2006/upload/09232011LoganRecommendation.pdf)



Oct. 23, 2011

412 Willard Ave.

Lincoln, IL 62656

To Whom it may concern:

This letter is in support of Logan Correctional Center. I have signed a petition to keep LCC open. The Governor needs to realize closing LCC is <sup>not</sup> a solution to the budget problems. The last thing Illinois needs is more crowded prisons and a higher unemployment rate. He (the Governor) says by closing facilities and laying off 2,000 employees he can save a lot over 5 yr. time - how can he predict what will happen in 5 yrs.? Doesn't appear closing LDC saved a large amount from budget. Seems Illinois is further behind with budget problems before LDC was closed.

Anyway, because not being able to attend the rally, do want you to know you have my full support - hoping & praying LCC remains open. Sincerely,  
Michelle E. Berglund

## Groups: Escape shows danger of overcrowding

- Story
- Discussion

Groups: Escape shows danger of overcrowding

By Kurt Erickson | kurt.erickson@lee.net pantagraph.com | Posted: Friday, October 7, 2011 3:25 pm | Loading...

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SPRINGFIELD -- The escape of a prisoner from the East Moline Correctional Center serves as a warning about the dangers of overcrowding and understaffing within the state's prison system, union officials and prison watchdog groups said Friday.

Inmate Doss Kuykendall, 43, was captured in Whiteside County about 11 a.m. Friday, about 25 miles from where he escaped Wednesday afternoon. He is serving a seven year sentence for burglary.

The minimum-security lock-up was designed to hold 688 inmates but actually houses 1,242 inmates in the wake of Gov. Pat Quinn's decision to halt a controversial early prisoner release program last year. The governor now is in the process of trying to close a state prison in Logan County, which would pump more inmates into already overcrowded facilities.

"This escape is clearly a red flag of warning that risks are heightened when crowding and staffing concerns are not addressed," said Anders Lindall, spokesman for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union. "This incident shows that prison security is obviously not just a concern for prison employees, but for the safety of the public."

John Maki, executive director of the John Howard Association, a prison watchdog group, has said for months that overcrowding is taking a toll on the prison system. In a recent report, the Chicago-based group said conditions at the maximum-security Menard Correctional Center have led to an increase in inmate assaults against prison guards. The

*Hopefully this incident can be brought to the attention of not only Governor, but also judge that Governor has. If this can happen now, what can happen if prisons are crowded?*

*THIS INCIDENT NOT IN PAPER OR ON TV NEWS - WHY? GOVERNOR TRY TO KEEP OFF?*

group also reported questionable living conditions for inmates at prisons in Vandalia and Taylorville.

"I do think this is a really big deal," said Maki. "When facilities are overcrowded and understaffed, security is going to break down."

The Illinois Department of Corrections reports that East Moline has 6.6 inmates for each guard. The statewide average staffing ratio for all facilities is 6.1 inmates for each guard.

Because of overcrowding, inmates at minimum-security facilities are already bunking in gymnasiums and other non-celled areas of the prisons. Quinn's proposed closure of Logan Correctional Center will trigger similar crowding within medium-security facilities.

Lincoln Mayor Keith Snyder said Corrections' officials are already warning that closing the facility will result in "operational challenges" at other facilities.

"With this incident happening, it again demonstrates the problems that come with overcrowding," said Snyder.

Successful escapes from state prisons are relatively rare. Corrections' spokeswoman Sharyn Elman said a prisoner left the premises at a work camp in Dixon Springs about six weeks ago. But, the inmate was quickly apprehended. In 1990, six men escaped from the former Joliet Correctional Center -- one of four maximum-security institutions operating at the time. In 2009, a prisoner at Pontiac Correctional Center subdued a guard and stole his uniform, but was unable to breach the prison walls before getting caught.

In a statement, Elman did not directly address the overcrowding and security concerns.

But, she noted, "The Illinois Department of Corrections follows strict national standards for its safety and security. IDOC's top priority is the safety and security of the public, staff and inmates at all of our facilities."

State Rep. Rich Morthland, R-Cordova, said prison workers at East Moline have expressed concern about overcrowding and the need for an early release program to help reduce the number of inmates within the prison system.

But, Morthland said he is not ready to tie the escape in East Moline to the politics in Springfield.

"If anything bad happens, everyone blames it on overcrowding. I can't agree with that analysis without knowing more about the situation that led up to the escape," Morthland said.

(Kurt Erickson can be reached at [kurt.erickson@lee.net](mailto:kurt.erickson@lee.net) or 217-782-4043)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT SPRINGFIELD

Criminal Justice Department  
College of Public Affairs and Administration  
Public Affairs Center, Room 384  
One University Plaza, MS PAC 384  
Springfield, Illinois 62703-5407

October 25, 2011

Dear Illinois Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability:

Many of the discussions regarding the proposed closing of Logan Correctional Center have centered on the economic impact that this would produce for Lincoln, Illinois and the employees affected through such action. This is an important discussion, as such a proposal introduced in the interest of cutting costs for the Illinois Department of Corrections must be considered in light of the economic consequences it will produce for this community and these employees. Closing this facility will have a negative impact on the economy in Lincoln and will increase the long-term economic and social costs for the State of Illinois.

The discussion of the proposed closing of Logan Correctional Center must also take into account the effects of the significant prison overcrowding that will result from this action. Prison overcrowding is widely understood among criminal justice professionals and researchers as contributing to highly problematic and potentially dangerous outcomes for the inmates, staff, and communities involved. The U.S. Supreme Court recently declared California's prison system's overcrowding unconstitutional and in violation of the Eight Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment. The Supreme Court based their decision on the fact that prison overcrowding compromises inmates' basic health and sanitation needs. Justice Anthony Kennedy asserted in the majority opinion that "A prison that deprives prisoners of basic sustenance, including adequate medical care, is incompatible with the concept of human dignity and has no place in civilized society (p. 13)."<sup>1</sup> While California has been the focus of prison overcrowding issues for many years, its notoriety was based on such conditions as housing hundreds of inmates in gymnasiums with limited sanitation, programming, and treatment. Such treatment resulted in class-action lawsuits by inmates against the state of California. Despite the well-documented problems of prison overcrowding in California, the Illinois Department of Corrections openly states that "Given IDOC's current bedspace challenges, approximately 1,500 minimum security inmates will likely be required to be housed in gymnasiums" across other IDOC institutions.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, IDOC states in its filing that the movement of inmates from Logan to other facilities "will create a variety of operational concerns, including the facilities' ability to adequately provide the necessary services to the additional inmate population" (p. 6).<sup>3</sup> IDOC also admits it is opening itself to overcrowding-related lawsuits.<sup>2</sup>

Aside from the obvious legal consequences that the State of Illinois may face based on its decision to produce overcrowding across its institutions, the effects of prison overcrowding on inmates and institutions must also be understood. While ample research exists on this topic, one of the best summaries of this research on the effects of prison overcrowding was delivered by

Professor Craig Haney, from the University of California-Santa Cruz, during his public testimony to the Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons.<sup>1</sup> Haney reports that prison overcrowding produces major negative effects for inmates and prison institutions. He cites literature showing that prison overcrowding decreases prisoner morale, increases prisoner medical issues, and leads to high levels of stress associated with physical and psychological injury. Haney argues that such negative conditions lead to increases in disciplinary violations among inmates. Haney also states that despite the increased likelihood of problems among inmates, overcrowded prison facilities are too overwhelmed to carefully screen, monitor, and manage their prisoners. Such failures further compound the risks to personal and institutional safety among prisoners and prison employees. Additionally, overcrowded prisons are unable to offer necessary health, educational, vocational, substance abuse, and other necessary rehabilitative treatment and programming to all of their prisoners. This means that inmates will spend most of their time participating in unproductive tasks which will then increase the likelihood of disciplinary infractions due to boredom or mental stress. The lack of relevant treatment and programming also hurts inmates' chances of success upon release from prison, thus contributing to increased recidivism.

Based on the criminal justice field's understanding of the negative effects of prison overcrowding, the closing of Logan Correctional Center does not make sense. While it would be a short-term cost-saving measure for IDOC, it is likely to produce significant long-term financial and social burdens on the State of Illinois.

If the State of Illinois truly wants to address the budget issues brought about by incarcerating tens of thousands of individuals, criminal justice policies should shift towards a community-based model of corrections. This would involve understanding the true causes of crime and reacting with informed laws, fair sentencing, and improved treatment and rehabilitation. This understanding can only result from collaboration of knowledge and practice among relevant agencies, communities, and partners at the state and national level. Without preventative and fair measures at the beginning of the criminal justice process, we will see no alleviation of the budget crises underlying this proposed closure. Thank you for your consideration of this information.

Sincerely,



Juanita Ortiz, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice  
University of Illinois-Springfield  
One University Plaza, PAC 378  
Springfield, IL 62703  
jorti2@uis.edu  
(217) 206-8481

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<sup>1</sup> Supreme Court Opinion, 5/23/2011: <http://www.prisonlaw.com/pdfs/BrownvPlata.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Associated Press coverage of the Illinois Department of Corrections' proposed closing of Logan Correctional Center, 9/28/2011: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9Q1NU9O4.htm>

<sup>3</sup> Illinois Department of Corrections' filing of recommendation for closure to Logan Correctional Center, 9/23/11: <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/cgfa2006/upload/09232011LoganRecommendation.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Expert Testimony on Prison Overcrowding by Craig Haney, Psychology Professor at University of California-Santa Cruz to Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons, 6/8/2006: [http://www.prisoncommission.org/public\\_hearing\\_2.asp](http://www.prisoncommission.org/public_hearing_2.asp)

**Public Comments on the Facility Closure of the Logan Correctional Center**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a citizen of Lincoln, Illinois and I'm extremely concerned for the future of our city if Logan Correctional Center closes. We have barely recovered from the recent closure of Lincoln Development Center. Our community drastically depends on the jobs that both Lincoln and Logan Correctional Centers offer. I work for the State of Illinois, so I know we're in desperate financial times, but I think there are other ways to save money.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE for the sake of thousands of people and a tiny town that prides itself on so much keep Logan Correctional Center open.

Thanks for listening!  
Emily Davenport  
1733 N. Ottawa St.  
Lincoln, IL 62656

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Please keep Logan Correctional Center open. It is a vital part of the Lincoln/Logan County community. The income generated from taxes, salaries, and the disposable income spent in Lincoln is crucial. In addition, should the employees be relocated it would hurt our declining population base effecting everything in the county but most important our schools with lower property tax income. Not only that but relocating the prisoners will hurt an already over crowded prison system and incur unnecessary expense for our state.

Thank you  
Bobbie Fults  
Lincoln, IL

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I write to protest the subject closure of the Logan Correctional Center.

The governor's office dealt a devastating blow to our local economy in 2002 when a decision was made to close the Lincoln Developmental Center, resulting in the loss of 600 jobs.

The succeeding governor's office recognized the unfairness of that move and built four group homes on those grounds approximately three years ago. The current governor was the second-in-command of

that decision-making hierarchy. Each of those homes cost more than \$1 million and they still stand unopened today. Another promise to Lincoln and Logan County not kept.

Now the next governor threatens to close Logan Correctional Center which would mean a loss of another 500 jobs and a huge economic slam to a county struggling to simply tread water.

No politics involved, the governor says?

Sorry, governor - you've been involved in two of the three economic blows to Logan County. Your statements ring hollow!

Carolyn Webster  
31 Maridale Street  
Lincoln IL 62656

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The community of Lincoln cannot afford to lose Logan Correctional Center.  
It would be devastating to our community and to countless families.  
It SHOULD NOT be closed.

Jeff, Emily, Aidan, & Ethan Lemay

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I am a Resident of Lincoln. I know many who are affected or will be affected by the closure of Lincoln Correctional. I feel that this is a vital asset to our small community. I hope that you will reconsider shutting it down.

Thank you,  
Rachel Washam

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I have been a resident of Lincoln, IL my entire life, which is 29 years. My family and my husband's family live here too. We plan to raise our children here one day. My father used to work at Logan Correctional Center and my Uncle too. I know many people who work there and my father and uncle still know many people who do too. Some are even dual incomes. Not only would it hurt them and their families, but it would be devastating to our community to lose this large employer. Lincoln, IL has been hurt enough by this economy with closing of other area employers in the past, please don't let our town become a ghost town. Overcrowding other Prisons by closing Logan is not the solution to Illinois budget issues.



SAVE LOGAN!!

Sincerely,  
Angela Craig  
Lincoln, IL

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I stand in opposition of the administrations desire to close the Logan Correctional facility. We are still recovering from the Lincoln Development Center closing which was an Illinois governor blunder. Don't make the same mistake. the closing will result in a \$73 million hole in our community.

If the State requires monies for operation then take it from any and all the support for illegal aliens. The men and women at Logan correctional facility are taxpayers and put themselves on the line in the function of their jobs. They give their all where the illegal aliens just take it all and don't pay their fair share of the tax.

Michael Kubat  
15 Pheasant Run  
Lincoln, Il. 62656

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To Whom It May Concern:

I was born and raised in the small community of Lincoln, Illinois. My father's family immigrated to this area & have been farmers outside of Lincoln for around 175 years. Over the past 25+ years this community has sustained a dramatic decline in employment opportunities. Although, I am no longer a resident of Lincoln, I have family in the area. I cannot imagine a better environment to have been raised in. This community emphasizes values such as hard work, personal accountability, and community responsibility. Lincoln rallies around one another in times of tribulation as well as times of jubilation-we stand united. I know the impact that the closure of Logan Correctional Facility will have upon this tight knit town. The economy in Lincoln is weak, one that has never fully recovered from Lincoln Developmental Center's closure in 2002. Lincoln cannot sustain additional job loss. It will ruin families, our school systems and other area businesses. Please take a long hard look at the devastating impact the closure of Logan Correctional Facility will have upon not only the residents of Lincoln, Illinois, but also the negative outcomes it will mean for Illinois in general. Keep Logan Correctional Facility open!

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Linda A. Nowack

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October 12, 2011

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
ATTN: Logan CC Facility Closure  
703 Stratton Building  
Springfield, IL 62706

To Whom It May Concern:

As a lifelong resident of Lincoln, Logan County, Illinois I wish to express my concerns of the impact and devastation this will have on my community. I am currently the Logan County Circuit Clerk and have been employed with this office for over 32 years. I have watched our community lose several major job sources including Lincoln Developmental Center, Lehn and Fink, Myers Industries, and PPG to name a few. The closing of Logan Correctional Center will cause the loss of at least 460 jobs and an annual loss to the local economy of at least \$73.3 million.

Lincoln cannot afford to lose Logan Correctional Center. In 2002 Lincoln Developmental Center closed and we lost 600 jobs. Not only will this affect the employees and their families it will also affect our town as well as surrounding areas. Mortgages won't be paid which will affect the banks. Our local retailers will lose revenues as well as our restaurants. People will be forced to relocate to seek out new employment. Our local government will stand to lose tax dollars.

This loss to our community will also have an impact on daily emotions. Unemployment and the ability to provide for your family causes stress which could eventually involve the judicial system. Our police agencies and the courts will have to intervene through civil court or criminal court proceedings.

The closing of this facility will definitely have a negative impact on our entire community.

Sincerely,

Mary Kelley  
Logan County Circuit Clerk

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My wife and I are the parents and guardians of Olivia Voit who is 23 years old and has a moderate cognitive disability. Olivia currently receives services that are funded by the home and community waiver. She receives in home respite support and developmental day services from a local community organization. Olivia is on the PUNS list currently waiting for residential CILA funding. My wife and I are in our sixties and must plan for Olivia's future needs. The only acceptable residential alternative for Olivia is a small community integrated CILA home. The only way we have any hope for funding is if the State of Illinois closes high cost institutions and transfers current residents in these facilities to less costly and better quality CILAs. This will free up the funding to address those families waiting for high quality community CILAs. We fully support the Governor's effort to close state institutions that care for adults with disabilities.

Thank you

John and Kathy Voit  
3119 Thorne Hill Ct  
Lisle Illinois 60532

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Good Afternoon. I am emailing to support the closure of Jacksonville and Mabley Developmental Centers. Closing these state facilities is the right thing to do for people with disabilities and a good decision to better utilize public funds. Community Services for people with disabilities is a much better investment.

Thank you.

Sharon Anderson  
A Concerned Citizen  
215 S. Grant St  
Westmont, IL 60559

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I WOULD LIKE TO JUST SAY STOP THE CLOSURE OF LOGAN CORRECTIONAL CENTER. IT IS BAD ENOUGH THAT AS THE STREET SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE CITY OF LINCOLN WE ARE LOOSING REVENUE, AND NOW THEY WANT TO DO AWAY WITH 460 JOBS. THIS COMMUNITY WILL BE DRIVING ON WHITE ROCK ROADS IF THIS HAPPENS AND WE WOULD HAVE EVEN MORE ABANDON HOUSES JUST TO MENTION A COUPLE THINGS.

PLEASE VOTE TO KEEP THIS FACILITY OPEN.

Thank You Very Much,  
Tracy A. Jackson, St. Supt. City of Lincoln

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My name is Kimberly Riggins. I am a correctional officer at Logan C.C. and I am pleading with you not to close our facility. I have (3) 14 year old children that depend on my husband and I to be there for them when they get home from school and in the evenings. As you know the inmate population is escalating and I believe that much of that is because children have little or no guidance at home due to parents working away from home or otherwise. The closest facility for myself, my husband and my sister (assuming we don't have enough seniority to get to Lincoln C.C.) is Jacksonville C.C.

which is 48 miles away. That is an extra 2 hours a day on the road and that is in good weather. If that doesn't seem like enough of a strain, my mother has very bad lungs and a bad heart which has tethered her to an oxygen tank 24 hours a day. Between her and my father, their medications alone are over \$1000.00 a month. The house that she and my father lived in in Michigan was doing her more harm than good so they were forced to pack up and relocate. You guessed it, they live with me and my family. Now there are 7 people in our house. Yes, it is crowded but we do what we have to do for the love and care of our families. I love and appreciate the fact that I work so close to home because if an emergency should arise I can be there quickly.

As for the safety of the staff, the inmates and the community, packing the inmates into the remaining facilities like they are proposing is, I hate to say it this way, IGNORANT!. Anyone who is or has worked inside the walls/fences of these institutions recently knows that with the facilities already being so overcrowded, there is little to no consequence for their bad behavior. Segregation is full 100% of the time and the inmates know this most of all, therefore, they are blatant with their verbal abuse and more frequent with their physical assaults. If an inmate assaults another inmate(which is out of control), or God forbid a staff member, which again is happening more often, the facility has to kick an inmate out of segregation before his punishment has been served, just to accommodate the next one. Putting inmates in large numbers in gymnasiums is, in itself, a highly volatile situation. It is a fatality waiting to happen. With the stress level way up, recreation way down (so there is no way for the inmates to vent their frustrations), gangs jockeying for status, no segregation space, and the inmates knowing that staffing is a serious problem, we have all the ingredients for an extremely dangerous and yes, as a guard I need to and will say it, a SCARY situation with little or no reason to believe we'd have any control over the inmates. Thank You for your time. I pray you make the best decision for staff, inmates and the community.

Sincerely...Kimberly and Jim Riggins (Logan C.C.)

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